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at 9.30 a.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 6th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. INSANALLY
(President of the General Assembly)

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The meeting was called to order at 9.45 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Ukraine (A/48/239)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the request by a number of countries for the inclusion of an item entitled "Economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)" (A/48/239) in the agenda of the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

2. The representative of Bulgaria had indicated his desire to address the Committee on the matter in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

3. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Pashovski (Bulgaria) took a place at the Committee table.

4. Mr. PASHOVSKI (Bulgaria) said that, acknowledging the utmost importance of sanctions, the States neighbouring the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as well as other States from the region, had ensured the strict application of the measures imposed by the Security Council. Their considerable contribution had been recognized in relevant decisions of the Security Council and its subsidiary bodies. For reasons outlined in the explanatory memorandum in document A/48/239, the application of such a comprehensive set of trade and economic sanctions had placed an extraordinary burden on those States, with already grave consequences for their economic development and political and social stability. A timely and appropriate reaction by the General Assembly was therefore of utmost urgency in the interests of preserving security and stability in the region and in the world as a whole. Deliberations on the issue would in no way prejudice United Nations efforts to achieve a peaceful and lasting political solution to the Yugoslav crisis, and the States on whose behalf he spoke proposed that the additional agenda item should be allocated to the Second Committee and clustered with similar topics already on its agenda.

5. Mrs. VASISHT (India) said that her Government fully supported the inclusion of the additional item as requested. India had been concerned for some time about various conflict sites in the world where third countries were experiencing difficulties owing to compliance with sanctions flowing from duly authorized international action. Article 50 of the Charter made provision for just such situations, on which discussions were proceeding also in other fora and to which resolution 47/120 was relevant. India was confident that discussion of the new item in the Second Committee would not prejudice any other ongoing discussions.

6. Mr. WOOD (United Kingdom) said that his delegation also endorsed the request for the inclusion of a new item to be allocated to the Second Committee. It was pleased that the explanatory memorandum emphasized the primary and indispensable responsibility of States in assuring the strict application of

(Mr. Wood, United Kingdom)

mandatory sanctions, but it noted that a combination of factors made their implementation especially onerous for the countries of the region. The Security Council had already acted in support of those countries and had offered assistance in the management of sanctions, but much more could and should be done. The inclusion of the new item would heighten awareness of the problems being faced by the countries affected.

7. Mr. FEDOTOV (Russian Federation) said that his delegation supported the inclusion of the additional item requested and its allocation to the Second Committee. The economic consequences of sanctions were very serious for the States of Central and Southern Europe and deserved careful consideration by the United Nations.

8. Mr. LEGAL (France) said that his delegation endorsed the inclusion of the additional item proposed. The acuteness of the problems faced by the countries of the region - whether or not they were sponsors of the proposal - was not debatable, and required serious consideration by the United Nations. The discussion of possible measures to alleviate the problem should of course take into account constraints like the need to preserve balance between institutions and the need for a realistic approach to budgetary questions; but there remained a margin for some initiatives.

9. Mr. MONGBE (Benin) said that his Government fully supported the inclusion of the additional item. It felt, however, that there should always be regular evaluation of any sanctions imposed under the Charter.

10. Mrs. FRITSCHE (Liechtenstein) and Mrs. FLORES (Uruguay) said that they supported the inclusion of the item.

11. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.

12. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be allocated to the Second Committee.

The meeting rose at 10 a.m.